

MAUGER ATTORNEY 1865

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The 1864 Election

Inauguration 1865

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

Inaugural Mirth and Splendor—

Lincoln Regime Started in Uncertainty

Fourth of Five Articles

By Stefan Lorant

A BRAHAM LINCOLN'S inauguration took place in the lengthening shadow of approaching Civil War.

On March 4, 1861, the air was heavy with uncertainty—uncertainty and fear.

Riflemen in squads were hidden on the rooftops along Washington's Pennsylvania ave., ordered by General Scott "to watch the windows on the opposite side and to fire upon them in case any attempt should be made to fire from those windows on the Presidential carriage."

Rumors of assassination passed from mouth to mouth. The police and the military were warned that Southern conspirators planned to kill the President-elect.

However, everything went according to schedule, though a stir was created when a spectator fell from a tree near Lincoln, throwing him off balance for a moment while he read his inaugural address.

AFTER the Chief Justice administered the oath, James Buchanan, the outgoing President, drove with Lincoln to the White House. Buchanan told his successor:

"If you are as happy, my dear sir, on entering this house as I am in leaving it and returning home, you are the happiest man in this country."

By 1865, when Lincoln's second inauguration was held, the ceremonies had become set in a traditional pattern.

A procession of carriages and other vehicles moved from the White House to the Capitol. One wagon in the parade displayed a printing press operated by members of the Typographical Society. The union members threw fresh printed programs to the crowd which lined Pennsylvania ave.

THE first event on the program was the swearing in of the Vice President.

The gallery of the Senate chamber

was filled with Washington society—ladies in crinolines, diplomats in gold lace, feathers and white pantaloons—crowded in the seats. One European minister fell down the stairs, nearly breaking his skull.

Down in the chamber were assembled the Supreme Court justices, the Cabinet, members of the House and Senate. In the middle of the front row sat President Lincoln.

As the clock struck 12, Andrew Johnson, the Vice President-elect, came in through the main entrance with Hannibal Hamlin, the outgoing Vice President. Hamlin said a few gracious words, thanking the Senators for their kindness.

When he finished he turned to Johnson. "Is the Vice President-elect now ready to take and subscribe the oath of office?" Johnson replied, "I am," and though he seemed a little shaky, began to speak eloquently.

"DEEM me not vain or arrogant, yet I should be less than man if under such circumstances I were not proud of being an American citizen, for today one who claims no high descent, one who comes from the ranks of the people, stands, by the choice of a free constituency in the second place in this Government."

The Senators looked at each other. What was happening? Did Andy know what he was doing? Who had told him to make a speech, and how could he be silenced?

But Johnson rambled on:

"Humble as I am, plebeian as I may be deemed, permit me in the presence of this brilliant assemblage to enunciate the truth that courts and cabinets, the President and his advisers derive their power and their greatness from the people."

HAMLIN now pulled at Johnson's coat; others tried to catch his eye and signal them to stop, but Johnson went on.

Lincoln lowered his head and looked fixedly at his feet. Was Johnson drunk?

Johnson had had a sip of whisky at Hamlin's rooms before the ceremonies.

"I am not fit to be here," he had told Hamlin, "and ought not to have left my home as I was slow recovering from an attack of typhoid fever. But Mr. Lincoln telegraphed me, as did other friends, that I must be here, and I came."

And he took another sip from his glass. The two tumblers of whisky did their work. It was a sad scene. The Vice President of the United States was taking the oath obviously under the influence of alcohol.

JUDGE NELSON administered the oath when the peroration of Johnson finally came to an end, and Andy repeated the words in a low voice. Then he took the Bible, turned toward the assembly, and in a loud voice proclaimed, "I kiss this book in the face of my Nation of the United States."

At last the embarrassing episode was over.

Lincoln rose and proceeded to the inaugural platform. He beckoned to a marshal: "Do not let Johnson speak outside."

As his tall figure became visible to the multitude, "a tremendous shout, prolonged and loud, arose from the surging ocean of humanity."

The President-elect read the noble words of his second inaugural from a sheet printed in two columns. A spectator reported that "not a word of that memorable address could we hear above the sighing, cold, gusty wind."

IN THE evening there was a reception at the White House. From 8 until 11 o'clock Lincoln shook hands—more than 6000 of them.

The poet Walt Whitman could not

get near the President, for the throng was too great. But he recorded that he was "in the rush inside with the crowd—surged along the passageways, the Blue and other rooms, and through the great East Room. Crowds of country people, some very funny."

"Fine music from the Marine Band, off in a side place. I saw Mr. Lincoln, dressed all in black, with white kid gloves and a claw-hammer coat, receiving as in duty bound, shaking hands, looking very disconsolate, and as if he would give anything to be somewhere else."

Attendants would not let Frederick Douglass, the Negro leader, pass into the White House, though he had been invited. Douglass asked a guest to tell the President that he was detained at the door.

LINCOLN promptly sent word that Douglass should be let in, and when the colored man approached the President, Lincoln said in a loud voice, audible to all around him, "Here comes my friend Douglass."

"As I approached him," recalled Douglass, "he reached out his hand, gave me a cordial shake, and said, 'Douglass, I saw you in the crowd today listening to my inaugural address. There is no man's opinion that I value more than yours; what did you think of it?'"

"I said, 'Mr. Lincoln, I cannot stop here to talk with you, as there are thousands waiting to shake you by the hand,' but he said again, 'what did you think of it?'"

"I said, 'Mr. Lincoln, it was a sacred effort!' and then walked off. 'I'm glad you like it,' he said."

WHEN the reception was over, the East Room looked "as if a regiment of rebel troops had been quartered there, with permission to forage."

People took away souvenirs—a great piece of red brocade, almost a yard square, was cut from the curtains and the lace window hangings were mutilated.

Lincoln was greatly depressed by this. It was "the senseless violence of it that puzzled him," noted a White House guard.

Tomorrow: The Inaugurations of

two Roosevelts—Teddy, Roosevelt and FDR.

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IT had been a cold winter, that one of 1864-65. The Potomac had been frozen solid since early autumn.

The war was dragging to a close. The fall of Richmond was imminent. The preservation of the Union seemed assured, after the victories of Gettysburg and Vicksburg. Sherman had cut the South in two.

So the stage is set, in a story about Abraham Lincoln's second inauguration, in the February issue of American Heritage magazine. Inauguration day, March 4, 1865, dawned wet and cold, writes Philip Van Doren Stern. The New York Herald's correspondent reported:

"The streets are flooded and afloat with a vile yellow fluid, not thick enough to walk on nor thin enough to swim in. This yellow material added to the holiday appearance of the people, marking them with gay and festive spots from head to heel.

Even on Pennsylvania.

"In Pennsylvania avenue it was not so deep as in many other places, for as that street was paved it was possible to touch bottom there. It was blacker there, however."

★ The rain soaked the crowd that gathered early north of the Capitol with its recently completed dome, and the President's advisors considered holding the ceremony indoors. But the skies lightened, and the original plan was carried out.

About 11 o'clock the procession began to form on Pennsylvania avenue as soldiers, marshals, volunteer firemen and others took their places. Vice-President Andrew Johnson took the oath in the Senate chamber, somewhat the worse for unaccustomed spirituous stimulants taken to ward off a cold.

The Sun Breaks Through.

The planks of the wooden platform erected on the Capitol steps were still gleaming with moisture when the lanky form of the President stepped from the building and advanced to the reading desk at its front. He smiled quietly as he surveyed the multitude gathered before him.

The sun broke from behind the clouds and lightened the facade of the splendid building and the upturned sea of faces. It seemed like an omen. Cheers, not very loud or prolonged, greeted Lincoln as he

prepared to speak. Stanton and Seward, secretaries of war and state respectively, retired to the left at some distance from the President and sat together. The patriarchal Gideon Welles, secretary of the navy, sat apart. Salmon P. Chase, chief justice, who was to administer the oath, scanned his lines.

Lincoln's Voice Rings Out.

Charles Sumner, controversial senator from Massachusetts, stood prominently at one side as if to attract attention to himself. The President, dressed in a black frock coat, held in his hand a printed copy of his address, which he was to deliver before taking the oath. The last notes of "Hail to the Chief" died away. Lincoln read the address in a clear, far-carrying voice, then took the oath of office.

Unnoticed in the crowd that watched the ceremony stood a popular actor of the day, John Wilkes Booth. Forty-one days later this actor was to end the career of Abraham Lincoln.

But no presage of coming tragedy shadowed the faces of the listening crowd that watched the tall figure with the sad, brooding eyes. Lincoln removed his reading glasses, smiled once more, and re-entered the Capitol.

Inaugural Words That Will Never Die

Praise of President Kennedy's Address Recalls Similarly Stirring Messages Delivered by Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, Woodrow Wilson and Franklin D. Roosevelt

THREE weeks have passed since President Kennedy made his inaugural address, and the praises of it continue to be re-echoed, not alone by his friends but by some who opposed him and by impartial observers. The sentiments expressed in any inaugural are not often original, but Kennedy's youthful virility and plain toughness could not be overlooked.

"Let us begin anew" is the phrase that constantly recurs. And these words, too:

"Let the word go forth from this time and place to friend and foe alike that the torch has been passed to a new generation of Americans born in this century, tempered by war, disciplined by a cold and bitter peace, proud of our ancient heritage."

There are some thoughtful observers who believe that this inaugural address may rank with the finest of the 44 thus far uttered. These judges place it in the very sternest of competition, for our list of 35 presidents has included several writers, scholars and philosophers of towering stature. Most readers who are at all acquainted with American history believe that the concluding paragraphs of Lincoln's second inaugural address, delivered as the Civil war was ending, mark the high-water mark of presidential prose and poetry:

"It may seem strange that any men should dare to ask a just God's assistance in wringing their bread from the sweat of other men's faces, but let us judge not, that we be not judged. . . .

"Fondly do we hope—fervently do we pray—that this mighty scourge of war may speedily pass away. Yet, if God wills that it continue until all the wealth piled by the bondman's 250 years of unrequited toil shall be sunk, and until every drop of blood drawn with the lash shall be paid by another drawn with the sword, as was said 3,000 years ago, so still it must be said, 'The judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.'

"With malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds;

to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow and his orphan—to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves, and with all nations."

The President Surprised Himself

Lincoln himself had an idea these words were destined for immortality. In reply to a letter of congratulation, he wrote: "Everyone likes a compliment. Thank you. . . . I expect the latter (inaugural) to wear as well as — perhaps better than — anything I have produced; but I believe it is not immediately popular. Men are not flattered by being shown that there has been a difference of purpose between the Almighty and them."

It will be noticed, even in these brief excerpts, that the Lincoln address contained the indispensable elements for an inaugural: Supplications for divine guidance and for peace. Even Jefferson, reputedly the least religious of our presidents, asked favor of "that Infinite Power." Other references in that respect:

"An overruling Providence" (Washington); "that Being Who is supreme over all, the Patron of Order, the Fountain of Justice" (Adams); "Almighty God" (Monroe); "that Power" (Jackson); "Divine Being" (Van Buren); "Divine Providence" (Taylor); "Giver of Good" (Theodore Roosevelt).

Lincoln's first inaugural, uttered as the south prepared to split the Union, was likewise a magnificent effort, a plea for calmness and for deliberation:

"Nothing valuable can be lost by taking time. . . .

"We are not enemies but friends. We must not be enemies. Though passion may have strained, it must not break our bonds of affection. The mystic chords of memory, stretching from every battlefield and patriot grave to every living heart and hearthstone over this broad land, will yet swell the chorus of the Union, when again touched, as they surely will be, by the better angels of our nature."

Before Lincoln, the best writer among our presidents was Jefferson, as the Declara-

tion of Independence and many other pages attest. His was a florid style, but a fluent one, easily understood. Here is a classic summary from his first inaugural:

"Exact and equal justice to all men, of whatever state or persuasion, religious or political; peace, commerce and honest friendship with all nations — entangling alliances with none; freedom of religion; freedom of the press; freedom of person under the protection of the habeas corpus, and trial by jury impartially selected—these principles form the bright constellation which has gone before us, and guided our steps through an age of revolution and reformation.

"The wisdom of our sages and the blood of our heroes have been devoted to their attainment. They should be the creed of our political faith—the text of civil instruction . . . and should we wander from them in moments of error or alarm, let us hasten to retrace our steps and to regain the road which alone leads to peace, liberty and safety."

The first inaugural address, Washington's in 1789, was a ponderous plea for heavenly assistance. John Adams, likewise no clever writer, requested liberty and neutrality. James Madison had won fame as author of most of the Federalist Papers, and his first inaugural was written with some felicity. One sentence has a familiar ring: "The present situation of the world is indeed without a parallel and that of our country full of difficulties." This in 1809. Four years later he was scourging the British with whom we were at war—"a war just in its origin and necessary and noble in its objects." (It really wasn't, however.)

Monroe Predicted Prosperity

Monroe was about the first (1817) to strike a cheerful note: "To whatever object we turn our attention . . . we find abundant cause to felicitate ourselves." John Quincy Adams (1825) had an eye to the future. As a result of internal improvements, he said, "I am convinced that the unborn millions of our posterity who are in future ages to people this continent will derive their most fervent gratitude to the founders of the Union."

For the next generation every president, as if foreseeing the "inevitable conflict" of the 1860's, stressed the imperative value of retaining the Union. James Buchanan, Lincoln's immediate predecessor, remarked at his inauguration, that, at times, the very existence of the Union had been endangered and he added, in one of the greatest of all understatements:

"Nor has the danger yet entirely ceased."

Presidents Cleveland and McKinley were concerned in their inaugural talks with the protective tariff—the one against, the other for. Benjamin Harrison was worried about finance, too. "While a treasury evil is not the greatest evil," he conceded, "it is a serious evil."

Theodore Roosevelt, early in the century, sensed the world conflicts ahead. "We wish peace, but we wish the peace of justice, the peace of righteousness," he asserted in 1905. "No weak nation that acts manfully and justly should ever have cause to fear us, and no strong power should ever be able to single us out as a subject for insolent aggression."

Woodrow Wilson, like his implacable foe, Theodore Roosevelt, was an exceptionally able writer, with a superb command of the language. In his inaugural Wilson punched hard at what he considered American failings

—materialism, selfishness, accumulation of wealth at the expense of human suffering. He called for broad reforms, economic and moral.

"This is not a day of triumph; it is a day of dedication," Wilson declared. "Here muster, not the forces of party but the forces of humanity. Men's hearts wait upon us; men's lives hang in the balance; men's hopes call upon us to say what we will do. Who shall live up to the great trust? Who dares fail to try? I summon all honest men, all patriotic, all forward looking men, to my side. God helping me, I will not fail them, if they will but counsel and sustain me!"

The three presidents following Wilson were essentially conservative, as their inaugural speeches indicate. Harding called, successfully, for a return to isolation. Coolidge was overly optimistic in appraising the nation's economy. Hoover denounced the crime and booze rackets in that "dry" era.

Roosevelt's Words Rallied a Nation

Taking office in a time of economic crisis (1933), Franklin D. Roosevelt reverted to the Wilson cry of challenge and defiance: "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself." . . . "The money changers have fled from their high seats." . . . "Our greatest primary task is to put people to work." . . . "We must act and act quickly." . . . "There must be an end to speculation with other people's money." . . .

Sixteen years later Harry S. Truman, at his inauguration announced his "point four" program for aiding underdeveloped free countries with technical assistance "to produce more food, more clothing, more materials for housing, and more mechanical power."

President Eisenhower was in his best form at his first inauguration when he revealed his plan and hope for peace:

"To produce this unity, to meet the challenge of our time, destiny has laid upon our country the responsibility of the free world's leadership. So it is proper that we assure our friends once again that, . . . we Americans know and observe the difference between leadership and imperialism; between firmness and truculence; between a thoughtfully calculated goal and spasmodic reaction to the stimulus of emergencies.

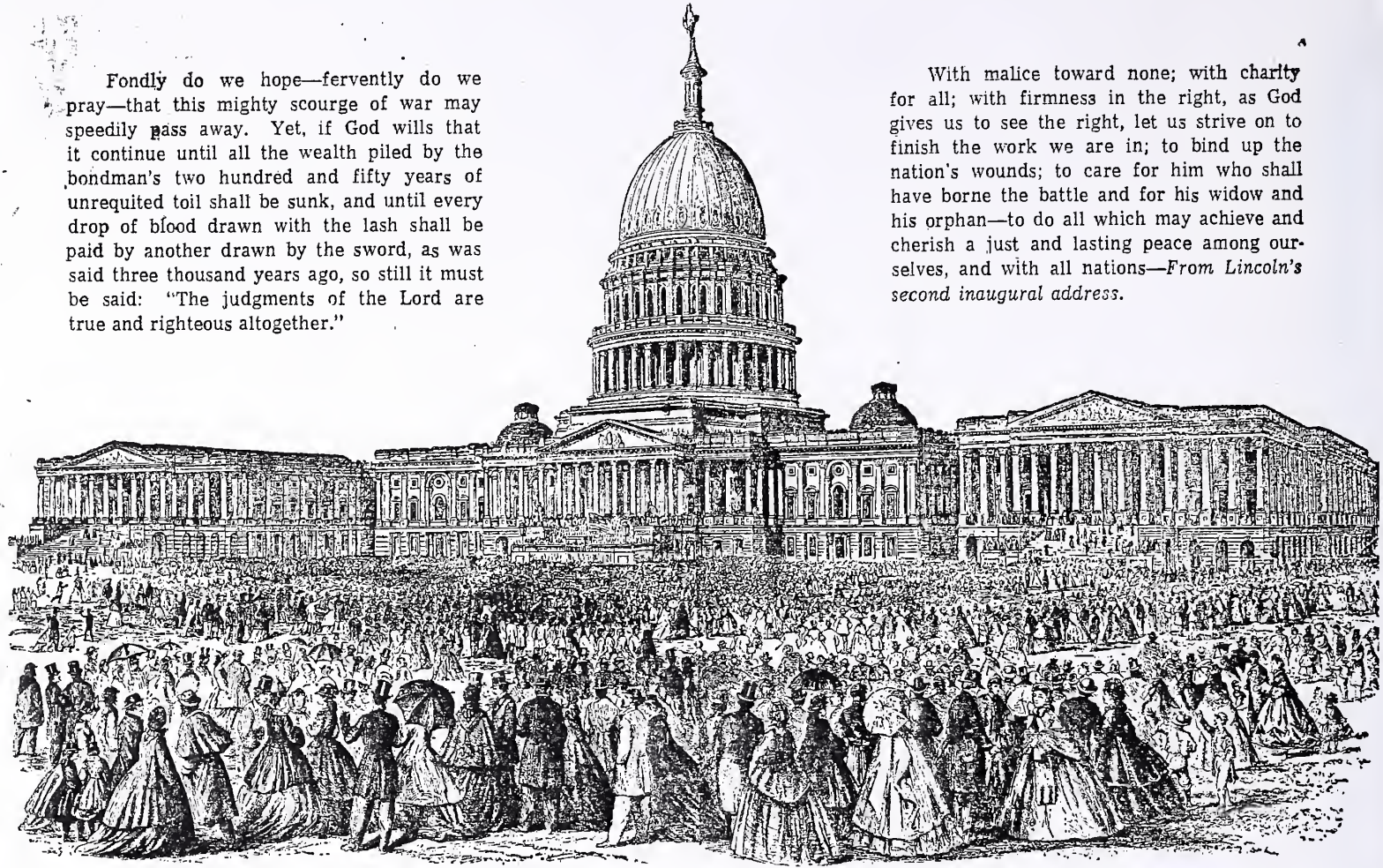
"We wish our friends the world over to know this above all: We face the threat—not with dread and confusion—but with confidence and conviction."

WALTER MONFRIED

"With Malice Toward None; With Charity for All..."

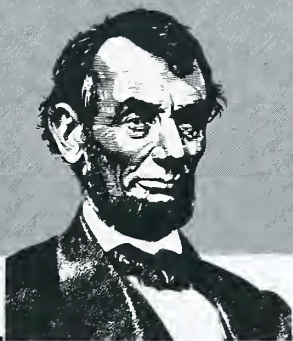
Fondly do we hope—fervently do we pray—that this mighty scourge of war may speedily pass away. Yet, if God wills that it continue until all the wealth piled by the bondman's two hundred and fifty years of unrequited toil shall be sunk, and until every drop of blood drawn with the lash shall be paid by another drawn by the sword, as was said three thousand years ago, so still it must be said: "The judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether."

With malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan—to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves, and with all nations—*From Lincoln's second inaugural address.*



This Was the Scene on March 4, 1865, as Abraham Lincoln Took the Oath of Office for the Second Time. The Drawing,

Made for Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper in 1865, Is Reproduced in the Current Issue of American Heritage.



Lincoln Lore

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FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

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INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

MARCH 4, 1865.

FELLOW-COUNTRYMEN: At this second appearing to take the oath of the presidential office, there is less occasion for an extended address than there was at the first. Then, a statement, somewhat in detail, of a course to be pursued, seemed fitting and proper. Now, at the expiration of four years, during which public declarations have been constantly called forth on every point and phase of the great contest which still absorbs the attention and engrosses the energies of the nation, little that is new could be presented. The progress of our arms, upon which all else chiefly depends, is as well known to the public as to myself; and it is, I trust, reasonably satisfactory and encouraging to all. With high hope for the future, no prediction in regard to it is ventured.

On the occasion corresponding to this four years ago, all thoughts were anxiously directed to an impending civil war. All dreaded it—all sought to avert it. While the inaugural address was being delivered from this place, devoted altogether to *saving* the Union without war, insurgent agents were in the city seeking to *destroy* it without war—seeking to dissolve the Union, and divide effects, by negotiation.

Monaghan 600

One of the rarest and most valuable publications in all Lincolniana is listed in Jay Monaghan's *Lincoln Bibliography 1839-1939*, Volume 1, page 149, under the number 600. The caption title of the three page folder is *Inaugural Address, March 4, 1865*. The copy in the Foundation's collection measures 9 1/8" x 5 7/8". These measurements vary somewhat from the copy in the Illinois State Historical Library.

Copies of this rare publication are to be found in the Lilly Library of Indiana University (formerly the property of Foreman M. Lebold), Library of Congress (2 copies), Goodspeed's Book Shop (likely 2 copies), Lincoln National Life Foundation, Illinois State Historical Library, Harvard University, Brown University, and in the private libraries of Carl Haverlin, Philip D. Sang, Thomas Wentworth Streeter (possibly 2 copies) which are being sold by Parke-Bernet) and H. Bradley Martin. Perhaps thirteen or fourteen copies of this publication are extant.

An explanation of the rarity of Monaghan 600 has been advanced by Carl Haverlin of Northridge, California, one of the owners of an original copy:

"If you would like one of my famous intuitive bibliographical hunches in relation to the piece you write about I'll say that I think the rarity of the 2nd Inaugural results from the fact it was never printed for general distribution but as a press handout only. That is to say I think it may have been limited by the size of the press corps to 100 copies or less. I have no fact to back up this assumption. But if I'm not right why is the 1st Inaugural relatively common?"

The Haverlin copy is described by the owner:

"A few more words to support my general theory that the piece was press impelled. I got my copy from an English dealer. It is marked in blue pencil; has a spindle scar. The blue pencil has been used to write a heading 'Last' over the printed *Inaugural Address* and again under those words 'of President Lincoln.' Below the spindle scar in blue 'Orationed' with two cryptic letters

INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

Both parties deprecated war: but one of them would *make* war rather than let the nation survive: and the other would *accept* war rather than let it perish. And the war came.

One-eighth of the whole population were colored slaves, not distributed generally over the Union, but localized in the southern part of it. These slaves constituted a peculiar and powerful interest. All knew that this interest was, somehow, the cause of the war. To strengthen, perpetuate and extend this interest was the object for which the insurgents would rend the Union, even by war; while the government claimed no right to do more than to restrict the territorial enlargement of it. Neither party expected for the war the magnitude or the duration which it has already attained. Neither anticipated that the *cause* of the conflict might cease with, or even before, the conflict itself should cease. Each looked for an easier triumph, and a result less fundamental and astounding. Both read the same Bible, and pray to the same God; and each invokes His aid against the other. It may seem strange that any men should dare to ask a just God's assistance in wringing their bread from the sweat of other men's faces; but let us judge not, that we be not judged. The prayers of both could not be answered—that of neither has been answered fully. The Almighty has His own purposes. “Woe unto the world because of offences! for it must needs be that offences come: but woe to that man by whom the offence cometh.” If we shall suppose that American slavery is one of those offences which, in the providence of God, must needs come, but which, having continued through His appointed time,

sold at auction for \$1,850, it was described in *American Book Prices Current* as “one of 4 copies.” Perhaps this count included, in addition to Wilson's copy, the copies in the Lebold, Lilly and Illinois State Historical Libraries. Haverlin also owned his copy in 1952. At the time of the Podell sale there were no copies in the Library of Congress.

In the early 1960s, it is rumored among book collectors that the Goodspeed Book Shop of Boston, Massachusetts, located five additional copies which may account for more copies being today in institutional and private hands. Needless to state, the discovery of additional copies has not affected the value of the folder, with current prices now ranging as high as \$2,750.

An excellent article titled “The Second Inaugural On Its One-Hundredth Birthday March 4, 1865 — March 4, 1965” appeared in the March 1965 issue of *The Month*, a magazine published by Goodspeed's Book Shop, 18 Beacon Street, Boston, Massachusetts. Permission to publish this article (which features M. 600) has been granted by the editor:

“On the last Sunday in February, 1865, President Lincoln entered his office holding a roll of manuscript in his hand. To a Congressman there by appointment and to Francis B. Carpenter, portrait painter and author of *Six Months at the White House*, the President said: ‘Lots of wisdom in this document, I suspect. It is what will be called my “second inaugural,” containing about 600 words. I will put it away here in this drawer until I want it.’ Then seating himself before the fire, in a ‘familiar and cheerful mood’ (Carpenter wrote), Lincoln talked of the old days in Illinois.

“Lincoln had more reason to feel ‘cheerful’ that night than for a long time. Grant was closing in on Richmond, Sherman was advancing northward through the Carolinas, and Thomas had triumphed in the West. The end of the war was coming at last. On the 4th of March, at noon, the 38th Congress would adjourn and the 39th would not meet till December, unless called in special session. The President was about to begin his second term, which (write Randall and Current, *Lincoln the President*) ‘was not expected necessarily to be his last—gamblers... were betting that he would be re-elected in 1868. After four years as a war President, he could look ahead to nearly four more, at last, as a peace President. More immediately, with no Congress in session to hinder him, he could look ahead to a few months of peace-making on his own... [to] the kind of settlement that he desired.’

‘And on what the Chief Magistrate might have to say,’ writes Carl Sandburg (*The War Years*), ‘on his words now, such had become his stature and place, depended much of the face of events and the character of what was to happen when the war was over. This no one understood more deeply and sensitively than Lincoln as he wrote his second inaugural address.’

lower case, *gh*. A numeral in ink '45 is in the upper right hand corner. An ink bracket is margined above and below the word *some* in line 8 of page 2. A blue X in front of *fundamental* on line 17. A blue doodle margins line 9 of page 3 and the word *unrequited* is underlined in blue. The same pencil wrote below the address ‘Abraham Lincoln President of the United States’ in two lines. The words ‘of the’ are obviously a speed writing compaction. Walt Whitman uses the same contraction.

“Finally and at long last there is what I am sure is the autograph of Lincoln on page 1 above the border... Going back to my press presumption it is possible to reconstruct some correspondent... for an English paper getting to the President and pressing his copy upon him for the signature—the proffered small pocket pen—the holding of something for A. L. to write on in the crush...”

In January 1952 at the Podell sale when the Carroll A. Wilson copy was

INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

3

He now wills to remove, and that He gives to both north and south this terrible war, as the woe due to those by whom the offence came, shall we discern therein any departure from those divine attributes which the believers in a living God always ascribe to Him! Fondly do we hope—fervently do we pray—that this mighty scourge of war may speedily pass away. Yet, if God wills that it continue until all the wealth piled by the bondman's two hundred and fifty years of unrequited toil shall be sunk, and until every drop of blood drawn with the lash shall be paid by another drawn with the sword, as was said three thousand years ago, so still it must be said, "The judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether."

With malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan—to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and a lasting peace among ourselves, and with all nations.

"The 4th of March, 1865—Inauguration Day—dawned dark and stormy. Rain fell steadily through the morning. Mud oozed through the pavement of Pennsylvania Avenue. Just before noon the rain ended but it left the spectators of the morning parade wet and bedraggled. 'Such another dirty crowd probably never was seen,' reported Noah Brooks, the *Sacramento Union's* man in Washington.

"Lincoln sat in his room in the Senate wing of the Capitol, examin-

ing and signing Congressional bills, until called to take his place in the front row of the Senate chamber, where the inaugural ceremonies were to begin. To Secretary of the Navy Gideon Welles they seemed poorly planned: 'All was confusion . . . a jumble.' Besides, there were the weather and the Vice-President elect. Andrew Johnson of Tennessee, who was to take the oath and speak first, was recovering from typhoid fever and was feeling poorly, wherefore, as was customary, he fortified himself with a little whiskey. But Johnson was a

temperate man, and the Senate chamber was hot, and the stimulant launched him into a rambling speech, to the great distress of Lincoln, who—as he walked to the inaugural platform outside—whispered to an aide that Andrew was to orate no more that day. At Lincoln's arrival on the capitol steps, writes Brooks:

'A tremendous shout prolonged and loud, arose from the surging ocean of humanity . . . just at that moment the sun . . . burst forth in its unclouded meridian splendor, and flooded the spectacle with glory and with light. Every heart beat quicker at the unexpected omen.'

"Then it was that Lincoln began what Lord Charnwood called 'one of the few speeches ever delivered by a great man at the crisis of his fate on the sort of occasion which a tragedian telling his story would have devised for him.'

'Fellow-Countrymen: At this second appearing to take the oath of the presidential office, there is less occasion for an extended address than there was at the first.' Four years of war had been accompanied by his and others' 'public declarations . . . on every point and phrase.' Four years before 'Both parties deprecated war; but one of them would *make* war rather than let the nation survive; and the other would *accept* war rather than let it perish. And the war came.' Carl Sandburg reports 'applause and cheers' at the words 'Both parties deprecated war' and that Lincoln paused long before adding 'And the war came.'

The President then spoke of slavery, 'somehow, the cause of this war' and an 'offence' against Providence, continuing: 'If we shall suppose that American slavery is one of those offences which, in the providence of God must needs come, but which, having continued through His appointed time . . .'

"The final sentence has long been cherished as the supreme utterance in all inaugural addresses since 1789, 'a sacred effort' as American Negro writer and lecturer Frederick Douglass called it. During these 75 words 'Reporters noticed . . . many moist eyes and here and there tears coursing down faces unashamed of emotion' (Sandburg).

'With malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan—to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves, and with all nations.'

"As we were working on this note we paused to listen to a recording of Sir Winston Churchill's *Battle of Britain* or *Finest Hour* speech. We first heard it by radio from London twenty-five years ago—and now again on the day of his funeral. How we wish we could have had on tape Lincoln's *Gettysburg Address*, and his *Second Inaugural*.

"May we be forgiven for hacking out pieces of the earlier part of the address—an offence the less pardonable because the *Second Inaugural* is the briefest of all its kind, running to little more than the 600 words Lincoln himself had counted.

"As with the even shorter address at *Gettysburg*, the greatness of the *Second Inaugural* was not at once universally recognized. Some newspapers found it too little and too general, failing in the spelling out of

peace terms. One Pennsylvanian wrote to a fellow Keystone-Stater, Simon Cameron, Lincoln's first Secretary of War: 'Why could not Mr. [Secretary of State] Seward have prepared the Inaugural so as to save it from the ridicule of a Sophomore in a British University?' — apropos of which Messrs. Randall and Current write: 'But Cameron's correspondent knew nothing of the actual response in England... If anything, the second inaugural received even greater immediate acclaim in England than in the United States.' And Charles Francis Adams, Jr., (son of our Ambassador to England), veteran of the war and later a railroad man, thought that 'Not a prince or minister in all Europe could have risen to such an equality with the occasion.'

"Lincoln himself, in a letter of March 15th, wrote: 'I expect the [Second Inaugural] to wear as well as—perhaps better than—anything I have produced; but I believe it is not immediately popular. Men are not flattered by being shown that there has been a difference of purpose between the Almighty and them.'

"Cannon boomed as Lincoln walked from the platform. That evening, in the East Room of the White House, he shook hands (according to the press) with more than 6,000 people — among them Walt Whitman, who presently wrote the greatest of American elegies on the death of the man who had written and on that day spoken the greatest of American inaugural addresses. At midnight the crowds departed, leaving the White House, said the President's aide, Colonel Crook, looking 'as if a regiment of rebel troops had been quartered there, with permission to forage.' Inaugural Address. March 4, 1865. [Caption title.] 8vo leaflet, removed, (short marginal tear on both leaves, pp. 3, in morocco-backed case. [Washington, 1865.] \$2,750.00

"Monaghan 600. The extremely rare first printing. "No American President had ever spoken words like these to the American People."

—Carl Schurz.



From the Lincoln National Life Foundation

A portion of the rope with which David E. Herold was hanged July 7, 1865.

The Lincoln Conspirators

A Military Court in Washington, D.C. brought to trial eight people who were charged with conspiring to bring about the assassination and death of the Sixteenth President and the members of his cabinet and administrative staff. Of the eight prisoners, four were given a death sentence. These were Mrs. Mary A. Surratt, Lewis Paine, David E. Herold and George A. Atzerodt. The remaining four were given prison sentences. The death sentences were carried out on July 7, 1865.

In the Foundation's archives is to be found a rather gruesome relic — a piece of the rope used to hang Herold, along with a statement by W. H. Maxwell, the soldier who secured the fragment of execution:

The Regt. I was in the 4th U.S. Veteran Vols. Hancock's Corps done duty around the old Capitol prison Washington where those connected with the assassination of Lincoln were confined formed a hollow square about the scaffold when they were hanged and Co. E of which I was one cut the bodies of Mrs. Surratt, Payne, Herold & Atzerodt down.

W. H. Maxwell

Maxwell served three years in the Army of the Potomac, First division, being connected with the 6th Corps,

Co., 65th N. Y. Vols. and Battery C. 1st Penn. Light Artillery. He also served one year in Co. E. 4th U. S. Vet Vols. Hancock's Corps. He participated in the following battles: Lees Mill, Siege of Yorktown, Williamsburg, Fair Oaks, White Oak Swamp, Malvern Hill, Fredericksburg, twice, Salem Heights, Wilderness, Harper's Ferry, Maryland Heights, Winchester and other small skirmishes.

After the war Maxwell was an examiner and appraiser of merchandise at the New York Custom House under President Arthur and also served as postmaster for Saugerties during President Grant's first term.

Robert Lincoln — Genealogist

Editor's Note: Robert T. Lincoln, the eldest son of the President, was often reluctant to discuss the lineage of his distinguished father. but in a letter dated November 25, 1904 to William E. Curtis, Chicago Record-Herald Bureau, Washington, D. C., he was unusually accommodating.

R.G.M.

Pullman Building
Chicago

November Twenty-fifth, 1904

Dear Mr. Curtis:

Very many thanks for your letter of November twelfth, in which you give me some interesting and unknown details of the ancestry of my grandmother.

The blueprint copy of the Lincoln and Boone records in Pennsylvania, is very interesting to look at, and quite amusing in the close details of the births of children. It begins with the marriage of Abraham Lincoln, son of Mordecai Lincoln in 1737. It is my understanding that this Abraham Lincoln was the brother of my ancestor John Lincoln, who left Pennsylvania and settled in Rockingham County, Virginia, about 1750. His son Abraham, went to Kentucky in 1780, and my father was the grandson of the latter.

Very Truly Yours
Robert T. Lincoln

Wm. E. Curtis, Esq.
Chicago Record Herald Bureau
Washington, D. C.

Announcement

Lincoln Lore Index 1 — 1500

About November 1, 1967 there will be available for sale a *Lincoln Lore Index* extending from the first copy issued April 15, 1929 to the fifteen hundredth copy issued in February, 1963. The index will be a 56 page publication in offset printing of green ink and will measure 11" x 8 1/2", the identical measurements of *Lincoln Lore*. The index will be in three divisions; namely, titles, subjects and persons.

The price of the index will be released at a later date. All orders will be handled through the Lincoln National Life Foundation.

